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The Genus Rhynchopsilopa Hendel (Diptera: Ephydridae)

by

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SYNOPSIS

The genus *Rhynchopsilopa* Hendel is reviewed and diagnosed, and a key is presented to the 14 known species. The following new species are described: *albipunctata*, *coei*, *frontalis*, *fuscipennis*, *minor*, *pallipes*, *philippinensis*, and *stuckenbergi*.

The genus is known only from tropical Africa and Asia. The apparently myrmecophilous habits seem to have caused the flies to undergo several structural modifications.

The genus *Rhynchopsilopa* Hendel is one of the more interesting in the ephydrid subfamily Psilopinae because the adults have undergone several curious structural modifications that partially obscure their true relationships, for example, the long pendant antennae borne on an elevation at the anterior end of the shortened frons, the depressed face with a sharp epistoma, the long proboscis and modified palpi, and the convex, brilliantly shining thorax and abdomen. These modifications are probably related to the habits of the flies, which are reportedly myrmecophilous. Students of ant behaviour are urged to watch for these active, metallic-coloured flies and to determine what relationship exists between them and the ants they follow.

After studying a large accumulation of recently collected specimens, I am taking this opportunity to review the six known species of the genus, to add descriptions of eight new species, and to give a key for their separation. The genus is known to occur only in tropical Africa and Asia.

I am greatly indebted to the following persons for the opportunity to study material in their respective museums and collections: P. Basilewsky and P. L. G. Benoit of the Musée Royal de 'Afrique Centrale in Tervuren, Belgium (Tervuren Mus.); R. L. Coe and Brian Cogan of the British Museum (Natural History) in London (BMMH); A. Collart of the Musee Royal d'Histoire Naturelle in Brussels (Brussels Mus.); the late Harold J. Grant of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (ANSP); Leif Lyneborg of the Universitetets Zoologiske Museum in Copenhagen (Copenhagen Mus.); and Brian Stuckenberg of the Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg (Natal Mus.). Unless otherwise stated, types and other material studied are in the U.S. National Museum in Washington (USNM).

Genus *Rhynchopsilopa* Hendel

Rhynchopsilopa Hendel, 1913, *Suppl. Ent.* no. **2**, p. 96. Type-species, *magnicornis* Hendel (monobasic). —Hendel, 1931, *Bull. Soc. Roy. ent. Egypte* **1931**: 69 (descr. notes).

The genus is readily distinguished from others in the tribe Psilopini by its long pendant antennae, short frons, depressed face with sharp epistoma, long proboscis, and convex abdomen.

Frons broad and short, ocellar triangle slightly raised and located well forward, mesofrons narrow, lenticular in shape, often set off by dull black pollinosity; frontal orbits broad, one pair of long proclinate orbitals, the second pair reduced to a minute seta; inner and outer verticals strong; ocellars also long, proclinate. Vertex rather convex; a pair of long genals and some shorter setae, a silvery pollinose patch usually present behind lower eye margin. Face long and narrow, flat or depressed with slight median prominence, with sharp epistomal margin, facials much reduced or absent. Antenna with segment 1 elongate, borne on a raised anterior hump of the frons; segment 2 long, with weak apical seta, no spine; segment 3 long, pendant, usually reaching below epistomal margin with rather long pubescence; arista whitish, with 7-10 black hairs. Proboscis modified in a strongly sclerotized tube nearly as long as height of head, and labellum reduced to a small yellow membranous flap with 3 rows of pseudotracheae (see figure by Hendel, 1913, l.c., p. 96).

Thorax convex; 1 pair of humerals, a pair of posthumerals, 2 pairs of notopleurals, 1 or 2 pairs of long dorsocentrals, the sutural pair absent in many species, a postsutural pair always present; a pair of small supra-alars; a pair of long intra-alars; 2 pairs of postalars. Scutellum short, with a pair of long, widely separated, apical bristles and a weak pair of lateral setae; scutellum and postscutellum dull or granular velvety black. One strong mesopleural bristle and a strong sternopleural; mesopleuron often with grayish pollinose or squamose area on upper portion or sometimes overall. Wing with costa extending to the fourth vein; costal section I (proximad of break at first vein) often thickened; costal index (length of costal sections II/III) variable, 1.5-2.7; fourth vein index (length of sections III/II of fourth vein) variable, 1.4-2.2. Legs slender, femora slightly thickened, without distinctive armature.

Abdomen broad, convex above, and pendant; first tergum dull, usually more or less hidden by the scutellum; posterior terga shining metallic bluish with sparse, usually long, erect, bristly hairs; fifth tergum short, visible in both sexes, narrower in male.

Biological Note.—Collin (1921, *Trans. Roy. Ent. Soc. London* **1921**: 509) reported *R. apicalis* Collin feeding from the anus of dead *Crematogaster* ants near Ibadan, S. Nigeria. Farquarson (*ibid.*, p. 443) noted: "While I was studying these (Cecidomyids), I noticed some of the little 'proctophila' and froze on to one in particular for special observation. I am now certain that they actually pursue living ants, smaller workers, pursuing them from behind, with apparently the same unpleasant object. They appear to select an ant of reasonable size (not too big) and run after it, never flying after the 'victim.' Contact between the fly's head and the ant's posterior end is momentary (not the deliberate and prolonged contact as in the case of the dead ants.) The fly then decamps (by a short flight) in search of another. The ants appear to resent the attention most seriously, for they usually stopped dead, bent back their heads and abdomens till they all but met, remaining thus for a few seconds before running off with the adbomen in the air. Unless alarmed, *Crematogaster* usually runs along with the whole body parallel with the surface on which it is travelling. While I repeatedly saw this happen, I could never actually see the fly absorb anything, so swift was the contact and withdrawal, but I think the flies may be definitely classified as Myrmecophilous."

In the present U.S.N.M. collection there was one *R. laevigata* Cresson from Monike, Uganda collected by T. H. C. Taylor with the label "on *Crematogaster* ants freshly killed by other ants (? *Acantholepis*)."

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *RHYNCHOPSILOPA*

1. Mesonotum with long sutural and postsutural dorsocentrals 2
Mesonotum without sutural dorsocentrals, only the postsuturals present 4
2. Wing with a large apical black cloud extending broadly across apices of submarginal, first, and second posterior cells; last section of fourth vein long, index 2.2; face yellowish .... **apicalis** Collin.
Wing unmarked or with a small inconspicuous dark spot at tip of third vein; fourth vein index 1.7-2.0; face pale or dark 3
3. Halter and face dark; tibiae and tarsi brownish; palpi broad and conspicuous; fourth vein index 2.0 .... **trautae** Wirth.
Halter knob whitish; face yellowish; tibae and tarsomeres 1-3 yellowish; palpi slender; fourth vein index 1.7 .... **laevigata** Cresson
4. Mesopleuron entirely dull pollinose or squamose 5
Mesopleuron at least partly on lower side 9
5. Fore femur yellowish 6
Fore femur dark except narrowly at extreme tip 8
6. Mesofrons shining; mid and hind femora yellowish brown .... **frontalis** n. sp.
Mesofrons dull; mid and hind femora yellow or dark brown 7
7. Mid and hind femora dark brown; costal index 1.8 .... **coei** n. sp.
Mid and hind femora yellowish; costal index 1.5 .... **philippinensis** n. sp.
8. Halter knob brown; face yellow; costal index 2.3 .... **ceylonensis** Cresson.
Halter knob whitish; face brownish; costal index 2.0 .... **magnicornis** Hendel.
9. Fore femur yellowish except at extreme base 10
Fore femur dark except narrowly at extreme tip 11
10. Mid and hind femora dark brown; body with blue-violet reflections; costal index 1.9 .... **stuckenbergi** n. sp.
Mid and hind femora yellowish; body with greenish reflections; third vein short, costal index 1.7 .... **pallipes** n. sp.

11. Mesopleuron with upper half dull whitish granulose; wing brownish infuscated, darker along anterior margin and towards wing tip; body setae longer and more numerous; costal index 2.0 .... **fuscipennis** n. sp.
    Mesopleuron entirely shining or with only small dull spot on anterodorsal corner; body with sparse, short, appressed setae; costal index 1.5-2.7 12
12. Tibiae yellowish; a small white pollinose spot at eye margin below antenna base; mesopleuron with small dull spot at anterodorsal corner 13
    Tibiae brown; no small white pollinose spot at eye margin below antenna; mesopleuron entirely shining; costal index 2.3 .... **nitidissima** Hendel.
13. Third vein long, costal index 2.7 .... **albipunctata** n. sp.
    Third vein short, costal index 1.5 .... **minor** n. sp

Rhynchopsilopa albipunctata Wirth, new species

Male, female. —Closely related to *nitidissima* Hendel, which it resembles in the absence of the sutural dorsocentral bristles, the pale halter knob, and the dark femora. Body with bluish and violet reflections; setose hairs of mesonotum and abdomen sparse and short, suberect; antenna much more porrect; arista with 9 dorsal rays; face with a distinct but low, rounded, slightly transverse median tubercle at midheight; palpi yellowish brown, flattened, ovate in profile, surface with scattered bristles and abundant fine sensory hairs; a striking but small silvery-white pollinose spot at eye margin on parafacies slightly below level of antenna base; large silvery-white pollinose patch on lower occiput behind eye also prominent; only 2 sparse rows of setae in acrostichal series between dorsocentral series; mesopleuron polished, a small, transverse, gray pollinose spot on anterdorsal margin; coxae and femora blackish, tibiae and tarsomeres 1-4 yellowish. tarsomere 5 dark; wing slightly yellowish brown infuscated, dark brown at base, the veins brownish; wing membrane with prominent violet iridescence; halter knob whitish; third vein long, costal index 2.7; fourth vein index 1.6. Wing 2.5 mm. long, 1.0 mm. broad.

Distribution: South Africa, Congo, Angola.

Types: Holotype female, allotype male, Dhlinza Forest, Eshowe, Zululand, 5-6 April 1960, B. & P. Stuckenberg (Type no. 69491, USNM). Paratypes, 28 specimens, as follows:

Angola: Benguella, F. C. Wellman, 1 specimen (BMNH).

Congo: Basoko, February, 1949, P. L. G. Benoit, 1 specimen (Tervuren Mus.); Kasongo, Grotte de Mavana-Kusu, 28 August, 1959, P. L. G. Benoit, 1 specimen (Tervuren Mus.).

Natal: Gillitts, Pinetown Dist., 28 December, 1961, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 2 specimens (Natal Mus.); Lilani, Ahrens Dist., April, 1962, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (Natal Mus.); Oribi Gorge Reserve, Umzimkulwana Valley, 21-28 November, 1960, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 4 specimens (USNM, Natal Mus.); Royal Natal Nat. Park, Drakensberg Mts., 1515 meters, 14 September 1963, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (Natal Mus.); Swartkop, Pietermaritzburg Dist., July, 1959, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (Natal Mus.).

Pondoland: Port St. Johns, October, 1923, R. E. Turner, 3 specimens (BMNH).

S. Rhodesia: Nyachowa Falls, near Umtali, 16 January, 1955, B. Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (Natal Mus.).

Zululand: same data as types, 9 specimens (USNM, Natal Mus.); Dukuduku, between St. Lucia and Mtubatuba, 7-8 April, 1960, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 2 specimens (USNM, Natal Mus.); Gwalaweni Forest, Ingwavuma Dist., Lebombo Range, February, 1957, B. Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (Natal Mus.).

Rhynchopsilopa apicalis Collin

Rhynchopsilopa apicalis Collin, 1921, *Trans. ent. Soc. London* **1921**: 509 (S. Nigeria).

Face yellowish, epistomal margin whitish; second antennal segment whitish pubescent above in lateral view; frons entirely polished including mesofrons; body polished blue with violet reflections; a pair of long sutural dorsocentral bristles present, a shorter postsutural pair also present; no acrostichal setae; scutellum granular, dull blackish; mesopleuron dull whitish on upper half; legs brownish; fore coxa, all tibiae, and proximal 3 tarsomeres yellowish; wing hyaline with marked violet iridescence, extreme base brown, a large apical dark cloud with slightly convex proximal margin extending from near midlength of costal section III to slightly behind tip of fourth vein; halter whitish, stem dusky; costal index 2.0; fourth vein index 2.2; abdomen with few, long bristly hairs. Wing length 1.8 mm., breadth 0.8 mm.

Distribution: Congo, S. Nigeria.

New Records:

Congo: Eala, April-July, 1936, J. Ghesquiere, 3 specimens (USNM, Brussels Mus.); Kibali-Ituri, Babeyru, 27 December, 1949, A. E. Bertrans, 2 specimens (Tervuren Mus.).

Rhynchopsilopa ceylonensis Cresson

Rhynchopsilopa ceylonensis Cresson, 1937, *Arb. morph. taxon. Ent. Berlin* 4: 205 (Ceylon).

A poorly preserved female paratype from the Acadamy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia collection has been examined. This species is close to *magnicornis* Hendel. Face, palpi, extremities of tibiae, tarsomeres 1-4, wings, and veins yellow to pale brown; halter knob dark; frons and mesonotum with violet to blue reflections, abdomen blue to green; mesopleuron entirely dull squamose; arista with 7 hairs; third vein long, costal index 2.3. Wing length 2.2 mm.

Distribution: Ceylon.

Rhynchopsilopa coei Wirth, new species.

Female. Similar to *magnicornis* Hendel. Face metallic dark green, epistomal margin yellowish; arista with 8 dorsal rays; palpi short and not stout, yellowish; dull mesofrons 0.4 breadth of frons; mesonotum shining blue-green, surface slightly squamose; acrostichals fine and short, in 2 rows; one postsutural pair of moderately long dorsocentrals present; legs yellowish, coxae and femora on mid and hind legs dark brown, tarsomere 5 dark brown; mesopleuron entirely dull squamose; wing yellowish brown except dark at extreme base, veins yellowish; halter knob whitish; costal index 1.8; fourth vein index 2.0; abdomen shining bluish black, surface with sparse, moderately long setose hairs. Wing 2.7. mm. long, 1.1 mm. broad.

Distribution: Nepal, China.

Type: Holotype female, Taplejung Dist., north of Sangu, Nepal, 5,000 feet, 1 May, 1962, R. L. Coe, dry grass above river bank (BMNH).

Other specimens examined:

China: Liung Chon San, Southwest Fukien, 22 July, 1936, from Melander collection, 1 male, 1 female (USNM). Poorly preserved specimens but agreeing well with the type.

Rhynchopsilopa frontalis Wirth, new species

Female: Similar to *magnicornis* Hendel. Face metallic dark green, epistomal margin yellowish; frons polished bluish violet including mesofrons and ocellar tubercle; arista with 8 dorsal rays; palpi yellowish, short and papilliform; mesonotum shining violet-blue; one pair of postsutural dorsocentrals present; mesopleuron dull squamose over all; legs yellowish, mid and hind coxae and femora, and tarsomeres 2-5 somewhat brownish; wings grayish hyaline, veins yellowish, membrane with violet iridescence; halter knob whitish; costal index 1.9; fourth vein index 1.7; abdomen polished blue-black with sparse, moderately long, semierect setose hairs. Wing 2.4 mm. long, 0.9 mm. broad.

Distribution: Nepal.

Type: Holotype female, Taplejung Dist., Sangu, Nepal, 6200 feet, R. L. Coe, mixed vegetation by stream in gulley (BMNH).

Rhynchopsilopa fuscipennis Wirth, new species

Male, female: Closely related to *nitidissima* Hendel, which it resembles in the absence of the sutural dorsocentral bristles, the pale halter knob, and the dark femora. Mesopleuron with upper half dull whitish granulose; scattered setose hairs of mesonotum and abdomen longer and more erect than in *nitidissima;* arista with 7 dorsal rays; tibiae paler, on fore legs distinctly yellowish; tarsi pale, only tarsomere 5 darkened; wing smoky brownish infuscated, gradually becoming darker toward costal margin and toward apex; costal index 2.0; fourth vein index 1.8; third and fourth veins parallel on distal portions, not converging. Wing 1.9 mm. long, 0.67 mm. broad.

Distribution: Northern Nigeria.

Types: Holotype female, allotype male, Zaria, Samaru, N. Nigeria, 16 February, 1966, Deeming, irrigation ditch. Paratypes, 2 males, 2 females, same data except 1 female taken at Shika, Zaria, 3 March, 1966. Types deposited in BMNH; 2 paratypes retained in USNM.

Rhynchopsilopa laevigata Cresson

Rhynchopsilopa laevigata Cresson, 1946, *Trans. Amer. ent. Soc.* **72:** 261 (Rhodesia).

Male, female: Body polished bluish black with violet reflections; acrostichal setae absent; upper half of mesopleuron grayish pollinose; mesofrons polished; face shining yellow to pale brownish, epistoma whitish in male; palpi pale, slender; legs dark brown, fore coxa pale brown, extreme tip of fore femur, all tibiae, and proximal 3 or 4 tarsomeres yellow; wing yellowish brown, extreme base and a small inconspicuous brown spot at tip of third vein dark brown; halter knob whitish; both sutural and postsutural pairs of dorsocentrals present; costal index 1.8; fourth vein index 1.7; abdomen with scattered long erect bristly hairs, more numerous on proximal segments. Wing 2.3 mm. long, 1.2 mm. broad.

Types: The type series of 3 specimens described by Cresson was found in the ANSP collection. After study, the holotype male and allotype female were returned to the BMNH collection in accordance with Cresson's published intent.

New Records:

Congo: Eala, May-June, 1938, J. Ghesquiere, 1 specimen (USNM); Haut-Uele, Paulis, March, 1947, P. L. G. Benoit, 2 specimens (Tervuren Mus.); Katanga, La Panda, 2 October, 1920, M. Bequaert, 2 specimens (Tervuren Mus.); Kibali-Ituri, Yindi, May, 1949, A. E. Bertrand, 2 specimens (Tervuren Mus.); Tshuapa, Ikengo, 7 December, 1952, P. Basilewsky, 2 specimens (Tervuren Mus.); Ubangi, Nouvelle Anvers, 9 December, 1952, P. Basilewsky, 1 specimen (Tervuren Mus.).

Sierra Leone: Njala, 11 August, 1928, F. Hargreaves, 1 specimen (ANSP), reported as *apicalis* by Cresson, 1946, *Trans. Amer. ent. Soc.* **72**: 261.

Rhynchopsilopa magnicornis Hendel

Rhynchopsilopa magnicornis Hendel, 1913, *Suppl. Ent.* no. **2**, p. 96 (Formosa; fig. head, wing).
Rhynchopsilopa rugosiscutata de Meijere, 1916, Tijds. *Ent.* **59**: 267 (Java). **NEW SYNONYMY.**

Similar to *nitidissima* Hendel; mesonotum bluish violet metallic but overcast with a sparse squamose pubescence; sutural dorsocentrals absent; entire mesopleuron dull squamose; dull mesofrons 0.28 breadth of frons; face brownish, epistome yellowish; palpi short and distally stout, ovoid, yellowish; legs brown, fore coxa, tibiae, extreme apices of femora, and tarsomeres 1-4 yellowish; wing with slight brownish cast; first costal section of male greatly thickened; costal index 2.0; fourth vein index 2.2; halter knob whitish. Wing 2.8 mm. long, 1.00 mm. broad.

Distribution: Java, Malaya, Philippines, Sumatra, Taiwan, Thailand.

New Records:

Malaya: Kedah Peak, 3300-3950 feet, 9 March, 1928, R. M. Pendlebury, 1 specimen (USNM); Pahang, Frasers Hill, 4200 feet, 20 June, 1931, R. M. Pendlebury, I specimen (BMNH); Penang Hill, 15 October, 1938, R. M. Pendlebury, 1 specimen (BMNH).

Philippines: Mindanao, Sapamoro, Curuan Dist., 18 December, 1961, Malaise trap, Noona Dan Exped. 61-62, 5 specimens (Copenhagen Mus.); Tawi Tawi, Tarawakan, north of Batu Batu, 4 November, 1961, Malaise trap, Noona Dan Exped. 61-62, 4 specimens (Copenhagen Mus.).

Sumatra: Brastagi, May, 1927, F. G. Meggitt, 1 specimen (USNM).

Taiwan: Polisha, December, 1908, Sauter, 1 specimen (ANSP).

Thailand: Talum, 22 January, 1902, H. C. Robinson and N. Annandale, 1 specimen (BMNH).

Discussion: I can find nothing in de Meijere's original description of *rugosiscutata* to separate it from *magnicornis.* The distinguishing characters given by de Meijere for *magnicornis,* were omitted or poorly figured by Hendel, but are actually present in the Taiwan specimen I examined.

Rhynchopsilopa minor Wirth, new species

Male, female: Closely related to *nitidissima* Hendel and *albipunctata* n. sp. Body with bluish and violet reflections; setose hairs of mesonotum and abdomen sparse and short, suberect; sutural dorsocentral bristles absent. Antenna not borne on prominence, arista with 8 dorsal rays; face flat, without median tubercle, black with bluish reflections; a small silvery-white pollinose spot at eye margin on parafacies slightly below level of antenna base; large silvery-white pollinose patch on lower occiput behind eye also prominent; frons 0.52 as wide as head; dull mesofrons 0.40 breadth of frons; palpi yellowish. Mesopleuron polished, a small transverse gray pollinose spot on anterodorsal margin; only 2 sparse rows of setae in acrostichal series; coxae, trochanters, and femora blackish, tip of fore femur yellowish below; tibiae and tarsomeres 1-4 yellowish, tarsomere 5 dark. Wing moderately infuscated, veins brownish; membrane with prominent violet iridescence; halter knob whitish; third vein short, costal index 1.5; fourth vein index 1.6. Wing 1.7 mm. long, 0.6 mm. broad.

Distribution: South Africa, Mocambique.

Types: Holotype male, Zululand, Dukuduku, between St. Lucia and Mtubatuba, 7-8 April, 1960, B. & P. Stuckenberg (Type no. 69700, USNM). Paratypes, 1 male, 1 female, as follows:

Mocambique: Tumbine Mtn., Milange, July, 1957, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 1 female (USNM).

Natal: Swartkop, Pietermaritzburg Dist., July, 1959, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 1 male (Natal Mus.).

Rhynchopsilopa nitidissima Hendel

Rhynchopsilopa nitidissima Hendel, 1931, *Bull. Soc. Roy. ent. Egypte* **1931**: 69 (Egypt).

(Redescribed from Jordan specimen). Body polished black with blue-violet reflections; face black with bluish reflections; frons black with violet reflections, 0.56 as broad as head, the dull mesofrons 0.2 as broad as frons; antenna dull black, third segment not hanging below epistomal margin; arista with 10 dorsal rays; palpi yellowish brown, broadened distally with long coarse setae; mesonotal setae sparse and moderately long; sutural dorsocentrals absent; mesopleuron without whitish pollinose area; legs dark brown, fore tibia paler, tarsomere 1 yellowish; wing tinged with yellowish brown, veins brownish; costal index 2.3; fourth vein index 1.4; posteriorcr ossvein distinctly arcuate; third and fourth veins slightly converging on distal portions; halter yellowish white; abdomen polished black with greenish reflections, violet at bases of segments; abdominal setation sparse, short, and suberect. Wing 2.5 mm. long.

Distribution: Egypt, Jordan.

New Record:

Jordan: Dead Sea, Wadi Araba, Ain Arus, 3 July, 1946, 1 specimen (BMNH).

Rhynchopsilopa pallipes Wirth, new species

Male, female: Closely related to *nitidissima* Hendel which it resembles except as follows: Smaller species; wing narrower, 3.2 times as long as broad, yellowish brown without distinct infuscation at extreme base; face yellowish; body with greenish reflections; mesopleuron with small gray-dusted spot on anterdorsal corner; face yellowish; legs yellowish including all femora, fore coxa, and tarsi entirely; third vein short, costal index 1.7; fourth vein index 2,1. Wing 2.1. mm. long, 0.65 mm. broad.

Distribution: Congo.

Types: Holotype male, Basoko, Congo, October, 1948, P. L. G. Benoit (Tervuren Mus.). Paratypes, 2 females.

Congo: Eala, November, 1934 and May 1, 1936, J. Ghesquiere (USNM, Brussels Mus.)

Discussion: The Philippine species *philippinensis* n. sp. is also similar, with pale legs and short costa but differs in its longer antenna, brown tarsomeres 4 and 5, and its entirely dull squamose pleuron.

Rhynchopsilopa philippinensis Wirth, new species

Similar to *magnicornis* Hendel. Face pale greenish above, yellowish toward epistomal margin; palpi yellow, elongate elliptical and flattened; frons black, shining with blue-violet reflections, mesofrons dull black, 0.25 width of frons; antennal prominence relatively low, antenna relatively long, arista with 8-9 rays. Thorax black; mesonotum shining blue-black, acrostichals fine and short, in 2 rows, one postsutural pair of moderately long dorsocentrals present; entire pleuron with coppery greenish reflection, moderately dull squamose; legs straw yellow, tarsomeres 4 and 5 brown. Wing grayish hyaline, veins pale brown; costal section I not swollen; costal index 1.5; fourth vein index 2.0. Abdomen shining bluish, surface with sparse, moderately long setose hairs. Wing 2.4 mm. long, 0.9 mm. broad.

Distribution: Philippine Islands.

Types: Holotype, ? sex, Sapamoro, Curuan Dist., Mindanao, Philippines, 20 December, 1961, in Malaise trap, Noona Dan Exped. 61-62 (Copenhagen Mus.). Paratypes, 2 specimens, ? sex, same data (USNM, Copenhagen Mus.).

Rhynchopsilopa stuckenbergi Wirth, new species

Male, female: Similar to *nitidissima* Hendel, which it resembles in the absence of dorsocentral bristles, pale halter knob, and short, yellowish palpi. Arista with 8 dorsal rays; antenna porrect, borne on a prominence extending forward distinctly beyond eye margin; face yellowish; palpus short and stout, val, little longer than broad; mesopleuron shining except dull gray spot in extreme anterodorsal corner; coxae and mid and hind femora blackish, fore femur yellowish except at base, tibiae and tarsomeres 1-4 yellowish; bristly hairs on abdomen slightly longer and more erect than in *nitidissima;* wing membrane yellowish brown; costal index 1.9; fourth vein index 2.0; third and fourth veins parallel on distal portions; halter knob whitish. Wing length 2.6 mm., breadth 0.9 mm.

Distribution: Congo, Mocambique, Southern Rhodesia.

Types: Holotype male, allotype female, Nyachowa Falls near Umtali, S. Rhodesia, 16 January, 1955, B. R. Stuckenberg (type no. 69442, USNM). Paratypes, 4 specimens.

Congo: Ruanda, Gabiro, 1300 m., 5 February, 1953, P. Basilewsky, 1 male (Tervuren Mus.).

Mocambique: Tumbine Mtn., Milange, July, 1956, B. & P. Stuckenberg, 1 female (USNM).

S. Rhodesia: Same data as types, 2 specimens (BMNH, Natal Mus.).

Rhynchopsilopa trautae Wirth

Rhynchopsilopa trautae Wirth, 1955, *Mitt. zool. Mus. Berlin* **31**: 50 (Tanganyika).

(Mocambique specimen): Body polished black with blue-violet reflections; upper mesopleuron, scutellum, and ocellar triangle dull black with gray pollen; face brownish; palpi broad and moderately long, brownish; long dorsocentral bristles located at the suture; postsutural pair also present; legs dark brown, femora blackish; wing slightly infuscated, with purplish iridescence, base brownish; costal index 2.0; fourth vein index 2.0; halter brown; abdomen with scattered long erect bristly hairs.

Distribution: Mocambique, Tanganyika, Zululand.

New Records:

Mocambique: Luabo, Lower Zambesi River, June-July, 1957, Usher & Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (USNM). Zululand: Gwalaweni Forest, Ingwavuma Dist., Lebombo Range, February, 1957, B. Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (USNM).

Zululand: Gwalaweni Forest, Ingwavuma Dist., Lebombo Range, February, 1957, B. Stuckenberg, 1 specimen (USNM).

Discussion The Zululand specimen differs in being larger, wing 2.6 mm. long, the broad palpi blackish, and the legs uniformly brownish. Both specimens are referred to *trautae* with some reservation (note discrepancies with original description) since a direct comparison with the type could not be made.